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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In patent application of:

) Date: April 18, 2003

Frederick W. Ryan, Jr., et al.

) Attorney Docket No.: E-962

Serial No.: 09/938,158

) Customer No.: 00919

Filed: August 23, 2001

) Group Art Unit: 2167

Confirmation No.:

For: **SECURE TAX METER AND CERTIFIED SERVICE PROVIDER CENTER
FOR COLLECTING SALES AND/OR USE TAXES ON SALES THAT ARE MADE
VIA THE INTERNET AND/OR CATALOG**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56.

While this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b) exists.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the

statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in accordance with the following provisions, as identified below with marked boxes, available under 37 CFR § 1.97:

1. ☒ 37 CFR §1.97(b) - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed according to one of the following: (i) within 3 months of the filing date of this application (other than a CPA); (ii) within 3 months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; (iii) before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or (iv) before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.

OR

2. ☐ 37 CFR §1.97(c) - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of any of a final action under § 1.113, a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and it is accompanied by the statement or fee as identified below:

2.1 ☐ Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) - see below.

OR

2.2 ☐ Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2) - see below.

OR

2.3 ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. **16-1885** in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

**** Provisional Fee Authorization.** If Box 2.1 or Box 2.2 is marked above and a final action under § 1.113 has in fact been mailed before the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. **16-1885** in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p) as if Box 2.3 had been marked.

OR

3. ☐ 37 CFR §1.97(d) - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee and it is accompanied by the statement and fee as identified below:

3.1.1 ☐ Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) - see below.

OR

3.1.2 ☐ Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2) - see below.

AND

3.2 ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. **16-1885** in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

Specified Statement under 37 CRF § 1.97(e)(1) - Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Specified Statement under 37 CRF § 1.97(e)(2) - No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing below, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

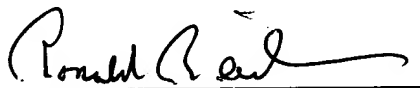
A list of the patent(s) and/or publication(s) is set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449 (Modified).

A copy of each of the items on PTO-1449 (Modified) is supplied herewith.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. **16-1885**.

A duplicate copy of this transmittal is enclosed for use in charging the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Plus attachments: Form PTO-1449 (Modified)
One copy of each of the references

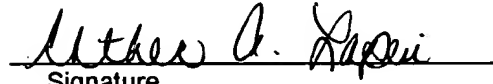
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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On April 18, 2003
Date of Deposit

Esther A. Lapin
Name of Rep.


Signature

April 18, 2003
Date

FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)

Atty. Docket Number
E-962Serial No.
09/938,158

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant
Frederick W. Ryan, Jr., et al.Filing Date
August 23, 2001Group
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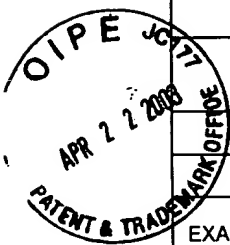
BY APPLICANT

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINE R INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,509,064	April, 1996				
	AB	5,644,724	July, 1997				
	AC	5,646,389	July, 1997				
	AD	5,903,876	May, 1999				
	AE	5,968,110	Oct., 1999				
	AF	5,995,625	Nov., 1999				
	AG	6,016,479	Jan., 2000				
	AH	6,038,548	Mar., 2000				
	AI	6,041,317	Mar., 2000				
	AJ	6,078,898	June, 2000				
	AK	6,141,650	Oct., 2000				
	AL	6,192,473B1	Feb., 2001				
	AM	6,199,049B1	March, 2001				
	AN	6,223,187B1	Apr., 2001				
	AO	6,311,171B1	Oct., 2001				
	AP	6,321,256B1	Nov., 2001				
	AR	H1,830	Jan, 2000				

FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
	AS	WO	Feb. 2001 ✓	PCT			No
	AT	EP	Feb., 2003 ✓	EP			No
	AU	WO	Nov., 1996 ✓	PCT			No
	AV						
	AW						



OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AX	AP and Vertex Form Partnership to Provide Client Server Software For Sales/UseTax Compliance, March 12, 1996, PR Newswire ✓
	AS	
	AT	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.